

Bachelor of Arts in **Social Services Administration**

0718



WHAT DO STUDENTS LEARN?

Chatham's social service administration program will give you a foundational understanding of social services and social policy. You will learn how non-profit institutions operate, as well as the impact of social policy on these institutions through classes like Managing Nonprofits, Sociology, and Social Policy and Social Justice. Additionally, service administration students have fine-tuned their understandings and professional goals through internships in a range of settings, including social service agencies, child welfare services, corrections, healthcare, and fundraising.

WHAT DO GRADUATES GO ON TO DO?

Upon graduation, you will be prepared for graduate study in business, social work, policy, law, counseling, or psychology, among other fields. You may also choose to start your career by pursuing an entry-level position within a non-profit organization, social welfare, corrections, or human services agencies.

At Chatham, you will not only learn the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for a successful career in social service administration, you will be doing so in an environment in which social justice is part of our core values.

Our faculty and staff will work closely with you to understand your professional goals and to find electives that meet your interests in social service administration. You can choose an area of specialization, such as criminology or social welfare, by taking electives through related programs within the department or throughout the University. Our faculty members have enjoyed long and successful careers spanning social work, non-profit management, and justice, and are eager to share their first-hand insights with you. Small class sizes ensure that you get the attention you need to thrive here, as your professors help you identify internship opportunities that align with your interests and give you a competitive edge upon graduation.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Receive academic and career guidance every step of the way from advisors who are faculty with real-world experience as practicing social workers.
- Choose to enhance your studies with a minor in criminology, psychology, or public policy.
- Students are immersed in a caring, supportive learning environment that integrates global understanding, sustainability, gender and identity, and civic engagement into all majors.
- All students complete a capstone seminar that channels the knowledge they've accumulated into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance. Chatham is one of the few universities across the country that offers such an independent and student-driven program.
- As a complement to your social service education, you may consider joining Chatham's University's highly active social work club, SWIRL (Social Work is Real Life), which provides opportunities for you to attend local and regional social work conferences.

SAMPLE COURSES

Managing Nonprofit Organizations

Through the use of case studies, assignments, and class projects, this course familiarizes students with the distinctiveness of nonprofit organizations and their management. Specific topics include marketing and fundraising, budgeting, personnel management and supervision, strategic planning and implementation, environmental and program evaluation, and managing inter-organizational networks.

Introduction to Social Work, Social Justice and Social Issues

This course examines selected social issues as well as related social welfare policies and programs. It introduces the profession of social work, key aspects of the professional knowledge base, fields of practice, and populations served by social workers. This course is appropriate for students who are considering social work as a profession as well as for those with an interest in related fields such as psychology, counseling, and public policy.

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Criminology is the study of crime, its cause and effects. This course covers definitions and types of crime, research methods, theories and responses to crime. Crimes against people, property, and organizations will be examined, and biological, psychological, and sociological explanations will be discussed.

► www.chatham.edu/socialservices/curriculum.cfm

INTERNSHIPS

Each student is required to complete at least one internship. Students in the social services administration program have interned at organizations including:

- The Children's Institute
- Bradley Center
- Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh
- Pittsburgh Action Against Rape
- Community Human Services
- Department of Human Services
- East End Cooperative Ministry
- Gwen's Girls



“Chatham’s social service administration major focuses on providing students with a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and real-world experience that can translate across many different career paths within social services and its related fields.”

— DEBORAH RUBIN, PH.D., *founding faculty*



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*Read faculty bios, browse course descriptions, and
learn about program requirements at*
chatham.edu/socialservices